

NORTHERN TRUST OPAT PODIATRY SERVICE

JANE MCCOY - ANTRIM AREA HOSPITAL

JANE BEGGS - CAUSEWAY HOSPITAL

WHY THE SERVICE WAS NEEDED

- ▶ THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DIABETIC FOOT PATHWAY ALLOWED FOR MORE TIMELY REFERRALS TO THE ENHANCED FOOT PROTECTION TEAMS. WHICH CREATED A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT AND EARLIER PRESENTATION OF FOOT INFECTION AND OM
- ▶ THIS LED TO A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN USE OF IV ANTIBIOTICS IN COMMUNITY
- ▶ SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF TIME AND LIASON BETWEEN MULTIPLE SERVICES IE PHARMACY , HOSPITAL DIVERSION TEAM AND MEDICS

THE TEAM

- ▶ CONSULTANT MICROBIOLOGIST
- ▶ OPAT PHARMACIST
- ▶ HOSPITAL DIVERSION TEAM LEAD
- ▶ DIABETES SPECIALIST DOCTOR
- ▶ SPECIALITY MEDICINE DOCTOR
- ▶ DIRECT ASSESMENT NURSE
- ▶ PODIATRIST

ALL MEET WEEKLY TO DISCUSS PATIENTS AND CREATE A VIRTUAL WARD ROUND

WHY OPAT ?

- ▶ CREATE FORMALISATION OF EXISTING LINKS
- ▶ SAFER PATIENT MANAGEMENT
- ▶ INCREASED CLINICAL GOVERNANCE
- ▶ BETTER MANAGEMENT OF SCRIPTS, BLOODS AND X-RAYS
- ▶ POINT OF CONTACT IF ANY PROBLEMS

ANTRIM HOSPITAL MODEL



- ▶ WORKS CLOSELY WITH DAU DEPT
- ▶ PATIENTS HELD ON VIRTUAL WARD
- ▶ WEEKLY VISIT TO OPAT CLINIC
- ▶ SPECIALITY DOCTORS ALWAYS AVAILABLE
- ▶ OPEN TO ALL PATIENT GROUPS

CAUSEWAY HOSPITAL MODEL



- ▶ WORKS WITH ASSOCIATE DOCTOR/
CONSULTANT / ED
- ▶ PATIENTS PRESENT AT ANY POINT
THROUGH THE WEEK
- ▶ HAVE PODIATRY REQUIRED REVIEWS
: WEEKLY / TWICE WEEKLY
- ▶ WEEKLY OPAT MEETING
- ▶ ONLY OPEN TO DIABETIC PATIENTS

THE SERVICE

ADVANTAGES

- ▶ ONE STOP SHOP
- ▶ TEAM FAMILIAR WITH EACH OTHER
- ▶ EASY TO HIGHLIGHT ANY PROBLEMS
- ▶ PATIENTS TREATED EARLIER WILL HAVE BETTER OUTCOMES
- ▶ WEEKLY MEETINGS ALL YEAR
- ▶ SAFER HANDOVER TO COMMUNITY SERVICES
- ▶ SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF BED DAYS SAVED

DISADVANTAGES

- ▶ CAUSEWAY MODEL ONLY ACCESIBLE TO DIABETIC PATIENTS
- ▶ LACK OF COMMITMENT FROM PATIENTS FOR FULL DURATION OF TREATMENT
- ▶ DIFFICULT TO GET COVER FOR HOLIDAYS
- ▶ DIFFICULTY COMMUNICATING WITH SERVICES OUT OF TRUST AREA
- ▶ PATIENTS REFUSING TO TRAVEL TO RVH SPECIALIST CENTRE AS ALL OTHER SERVICES OFFERED AT HOME

THE FUTURE

- ▶ SECURED FUNDING FOR OPATS SERVICE IN DFP IN NORTHERN TRUST
- ▶ ADDITION OF RADIOLOGIST TO TEAM
- ▶ CAUSEWAY TO FUNCTION MORE LIKE ANTRIM WITH A DEDICATED OPAT REVIEW DAY